

Join The Fight

Support The Vermont Coalition of Lesbians and Gay Men

in their work to pass legislation guaranteeing equal rights to Lesbians and Gay men in Vermont and insuring protection for People With AIDS and HIV+ persons. Contribute to our cause and add your name to our mailing list. We need your help.

Yes, I want to be a part of making Vermont safer for Gays and Lesbians. Add my name to your mailing list

Accept my contribution of _____ to help with expenses and general coalition building efforts.

See Address on VT Resources Page

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

THANK YOU!

How to Advertise

If you would like to run an ad in OITM, please contact Ellen at 860-1922 evenings for rates and information. Ads must be received by the 7th of the previous month to be included in the current months issue. Copy can be mailed to: OITM, P.O. Box 177, Burlington, VT 05402..

Gay National News

Two More Senators Cosponsor Hate Crimes Act

Senators Jim Sasser (D-TN) and Sam Nunn (D-GA) signed on as cosponsors of the Federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act, bringing the total number of Senate supporters to 56.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) is optimistic the bill can pass during the 101st Congress.

The House of Representatives passed the bill last June 27 by a vote of 368 to 47. Last year, the bill was passed by the House but killed in the Senate during a last-minute move by Senator Jesse Helms.

The Hate Crimes Statistics Act directs the U.S. Department of Justice to compile and publish data on crimes that manifest prejudice based on race, religion, sexual orientation or ethnicity. Gay and lesbian activists see the bill as an important first step by the federal government in stemming the alarming increase of "gay bashing."

World AIDS Day Coalition Sponsors CD

Seventy-eight demonstrators, representing more than 50 AIDS service and advocacy organizations nationwide, were arrested in a civil disobedience in front of the White House on December 1, as part of an international recognition of World AIDS Day.

Less than one week after the demonstration, the congressionally mandated National AIDS Commission, in a report to President Bush, said, "it is time to match rhetoric with action" and called the current health care system "singularly unresponsive" to fighting the epidemic.

Activists protested that research funding is not enough, social services needs are not being met, food and shelter are as essential as drug treatments for all people with HIV infection. In addition, the demonstration focused on the need for education and prevention programs targeted at communities of color and treatment programs de-

signed for the public healthcare system and those it serves.

By World AIDS Day of 1990, AIDS cases across the country are expected to top 109,000, almost double 1989's total.

HRCF Announces Plans for a National Family Registry

In the wake of the failure of San Francisco's domestic partnership law on election day, the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) has decided to develop a nationwide family registry program to build grass roots support for the concept of lesbian and gay families.

The primary goals of the Registry will be as an educational tool to increase the visibility of lesbian and gay families and to recapture the term "family" from the right wing. Beyond its utility as an educational tool, the National Family Registry will provide an alternative "institution" to conventional marriages, providing recognition and support in the lesbian and gay communities for the relationships that are forged within it.

Plans for the organization of the Registry are currently underway. Lesbians and gays who would like to participate should contact Kathleen Stoll at HRCF in Washington, (202) 628-4160. HRCF hopes to launch the National Family Registry on February 14, 1990, Valentine's day.

HRCF Supporters "Speak Out" on World AIDS Day

The Human Rights Campaign Fund's "Speak Out" program triggered thousands of Western Union messages to President Bush on World AIDS Day, December 1, 1989. The messages, delivered to the White House, called on the president to support more than \$2 billion in funding for the fight against AIDS and push for early action on the Americans with Disabilities Act in the U.S. House of Representatives.

HRCF's "Speak Out" program is normally targeted to Members of Congress



GOLDEN THREADS

a contact publication for lesbians
over 50 and women who love
older women.

Canada and U.S. Confidential, warm, reliable. For free information send self-addressed envelope; (U.S. residents please stamp it). Sample copy mailed discreetly, \$5.00 (U.S.\$)

P.O. Box 3177, Burlington, VT 05401